POINT

THE TOC H MAGAZINE

3

February 1997

TOC H

Bringing people together

POINT 3

TOC H is about people. Founded in 1915, TOC H fights to break down barriers by challenging individuals' preconceptions of others and the divisions which exist in society. While its work is based on Christian principles, all faiths and none are recognised and accepted.

TOC H works with people from all walks of life, tackling social problems such as loneliness, isolation or deprivation through an approach which focuses on self-help and taking responsibility for oneself and the local community.

TOC H uses the model of the compass to emphasise four personal challenges which are the inspiration for its membership. The Four Points of the TOC H Compass are:

1 Friendship: 'To Love Widely'
to 'welcome all in friendship'.
2 Service: 'To Build Bravely'
to 'give personal service'.
3 Fairmindedness: 'To Think Fairly'
to 'listen always to the views of others'.
4 The Kingdom of God: 'To Witness Humbly'
to 'acknowledge the spiritual nature of man'.

Point 3 is the magazine of TOC H, and derives its title from the third Point of the TOC H Compass. It acts as a vehicle for communication between staff and members, informing, encouraging and stimulating readers on topical and relevant issues. Contributions are welcome from any group or individual involved in TOC H.

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- A full copy of the current Editorial Policy is available on request from the Editor.
- The opinions expressed are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Editor or TOC H.
- While Point 3 is made available to all members and staff free of charge, a voluntary contribution towards the cost of production and mailing is welcomed.
- Printed on chlorine free, environmentally-friendly paper.

Photo: 'Valentine Cherubs' - the font cover, attributed to Grinling Gibbons, from All Hallows Church. Photo from the TOC H archive.

TOC H is an active Movement of people practising reconciliation by being open to all in friendship, offering service in the community, confronting intolerance and prejudice, and discovering a faith to live by. We bring the TOC H experience to as many people as possible to develop personal growth and build caring communities.

Registered Charity No. 211042

AN EDITORIAL - OR NOT?

This first issue of Point 3 for 1997 is simultaneously a personal first for me, as I take over the role of Editor of the Toc H magazine. In doing so I must first thank John Mitchell, Acting Editor, Sue Pells, and Alan Johnson, all of whom have done an excellent job of caretaking Point 3, both before I joined Toc H, and while I was settling into my post as Communications Officer.

You may have already noticed one or two changes in this issue, both in terms of design and content. These I have made with the aim of bringing a fresh, positive, and lively approach to Point 3. Toc H is now embarking on an exciting challenge to develop the Movement of the future, and I would like Point 3 to reflect and be a part of that impetus. In the short time I've been with Toc H I've been struck by the commitment and enthusiasm of its members and staff to succeed in this task, and this I feel must be conveyed more strongly in Point 3. Perhaps it is somewhat symbolic that the name recently chosen for the boat being used in the Toc H Atlantic Challenge is the Phoenix, because, like the legendary bird which rose anew from the ashes, so, I believe, will Toc H be rebuilt.

Point 3 is **your** magazine. It is **your** vehicle for communicating with each other - to share Toc H news, activities, ideas, successes, opinions, etc. - so please use this tool and contribute material to Point 3. Tools, after all, are only as good as those who use them.

This is both the first and the last editorial I will write. One of my changes is to drop this long-standing tradition in favour of a more low-profile approach. Toc H and Point 3 belong to you. So please do write to me if you have any comments, suggestions or feedback - constructive ones only please - on Point 3.

Sarah Claridge,
Editor

CHANGES TO POINT 3 DISTRIBUTION

As from the February 1997 issue, readers should expect to receive their copies of Point 3 in the **third** week of the month. This change to distribution enables the inclusion of timely Director's reports on CEC meetings and permits a smoother production schedule.

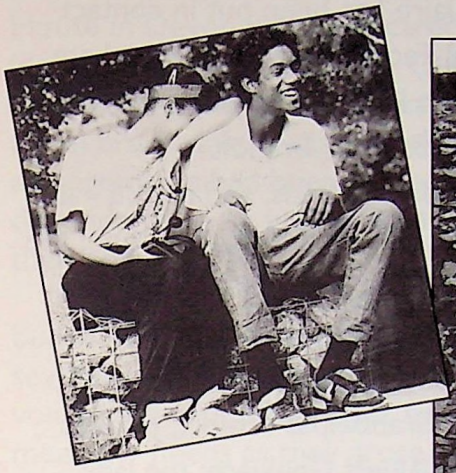
STOP PRESS • STOP PRESS

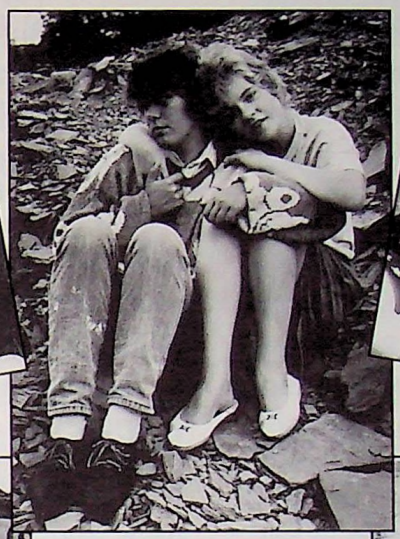
We apologise for the slight delay with the February issue which is a result of staff absence due to sickness.

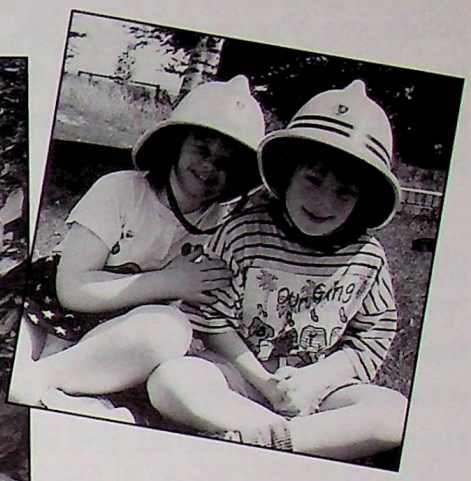
A VALENTINE'S DAY PASTICHE

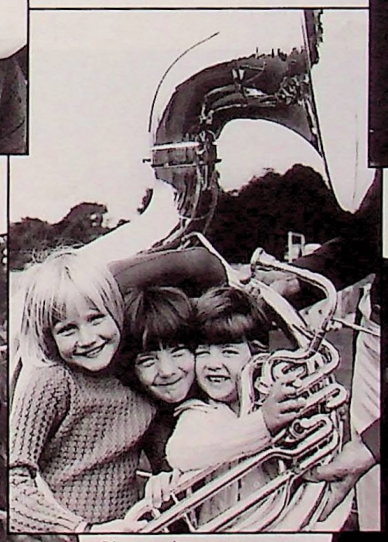
Arguably the word most strongly associated with February 14th is that of "Love". A simple word, but one which conveys so much about the values, ethos and activities of Toc H. 'Toc H' love is not the clichéd, romantic one traditionally associated with Valentine's Day, but one which goes far beyond this, expressing a much more profound recognition and appreciation of one's fellow man. A recent exploration to the Toc H photo-archive left me breathless at the wealth of visual images, past and present, which capture this quality so much more eloquently than any words I can write. I hope you enjoy my selection.

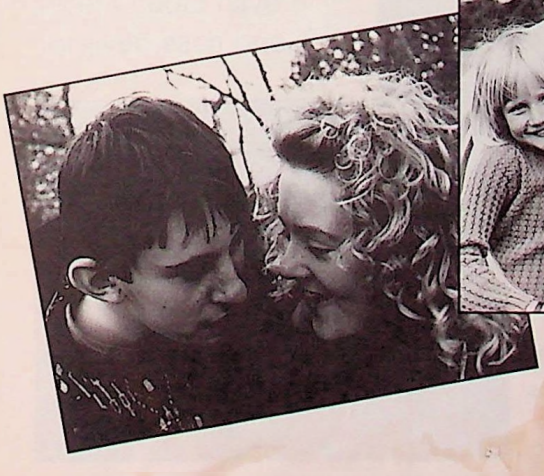
Sarah Claridge
(Communications Officer/Editor)











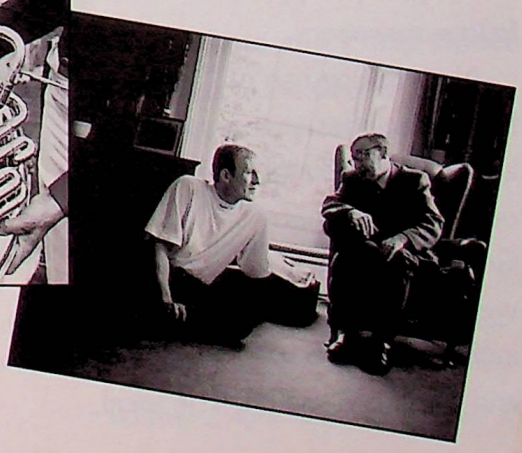


Photo above, courtesy of The Leicester Mercury

INTERNATIONAL PROJECT '96

The 6th International Project, held in Poperinge, aimed to explore the themes of war, reconciliation, stereotypes, and also to provide an opportunity for sharing experiences of Flanders. Led by Nele Knockaert and Stuart Wroe, the project consisted of six volunteers: Virginie from Kortrijk, Claire from Bristol, Emmanuela from Athens, Luci from Essex, Roberta from Sardinia and Nikki from Newcastle.

With the aim of having fun a key objective, participants engaged in work which this year took the form of assisting the Commonwealth War Graves Commission with gardening at Tyne Cot and Bedford House WW1 cemeteries, and also undertaking conservation work at the Pool of Peace-this being in return for concessions on accommodation at Talbot House.

As leaders we were lucky to have such a good group which very quickly formed and performed well together. There were no outsiders, no cliques, and when Claire sprained her ankle and Roberta suffered home-sickness, each member of the group supported her fellow members.

Also making use of Talbot House facilities at the time was another residential project, organised by Tubby's Poperinge Group. For the first weekend we shared various activities, including a barbecue, a picnic and a football match. The local television station also came along to film a piece about the project, featuring both the work at Tyne Cot and the football match.

Since their return to Britain a number of the group have expressed further interest in Toc H. Emmanuela is considering undertaking Project Leader Training, Claire has been put in contact with a local Toc H group in Birmingham, and I hope to keep in contact with Nikki via the Tyne & Wear Branch.

"Thanks, dank je wels, and mercis" are due to many, including Martine Boone, the project's previous leader, who provided much administrative support; the Talbot House Administrative Council; An & Filip Kestier; the Grabbelpas Project; Jacques Ryckebosch; Albert Ghekiere; the lady from Sansen for the lovely cakes on Sunday night; and, of course, Claire, Virginie, Luci, Nikki, Manuella, and Roberta.

Nele Knockaert
Stuart Wroe
(Development Officer, Division 1)

Above: In the Garden at Talbot House: Virginie, Claire, Manuela, Stuart, Nele, Luci, Roberta and Nikki.
Right: Resting at St Juliaan Monument, Virginie, Roberta, Nikki and Claire.

CARING WITH THE CARERS

Last year we were privileged to lead the first Toc H project to be run in conjunction with Carers National Association (CNA), a body which represents the interests of those who provide unpaid care in the home.* Set up by Somerset District Project Support Group, the project involved five of us from Toc H spending a week at Lindridge House in Devon with nine carers identified by the local CNA. Our aim was to provide a chance for the carers to have a real break, safe in the knowledge that arrangements had been made for dependents to be well looked after in their absence.

In true Toc H fashion we were a mixed bunch - ranging from children up to seventy-plus. Although the Toc H volunteers kept a particular eye out to meet any needs as they arose, we were not really there to 'help' at all. We were there to do the bulk of the organising, to contribute to setting the atmosphere and to add to the variety of the group by being 'not carers'.

We had a great time! It was humbling to share the week with people who carried enormous pressures on a daily basis and who were just so unbelievably nice! I could have forgiven each one if they'd been unremittingly selfish for the week or simply wanted to curl up in a corner and read. Far from it. We hit Dartmoor in the drizzle, Teignmouth funfair in the rain, and even managed a couple of sunny hours on the River Dart. We decorated flower-pots and introduced ourselves to circle dancing. At the end of the week we shared a short time of quiet reflection and a fair few hugs and tears. One of the carers commented, "It was lovely just to be me" - a sentiment I would value as the hallmark of any true Toc H experience.

Now, several months later, the links between Toc H and the CNA have grown stronger. A reunion has taken place; a similar project may run later this year, and there may be opportunities for our local members to help relieve carers. In addition, carers have the chance to join District social events and visit Toc H branches, and the CNA may explore Toc H's Friendship Circle model as a new way of bringing carers together.

In short, there is now significant potential for Toc H and the CNA to promote valuable work both in Somerset and nationally. Building a relationship with CNA could be just the right opportunity for Toc H in many other parts of the country.

Above and Left: Project participants - young and old - enjoying the delights of the River Dart.

Jane and Philip Douch

For details of the CNA in your locality, phone their headquarters on 0171 490 8818. For further information about the work already under way in Somerset, call Len Sebright on 01823 274501 or Jane and Philip Douch on 01364 73696.

* see Point 3, April '96 for more details.

WHAT IS PRAYER ALL ABOUT?

Have you ever asked a question like that? If you have, then you are not alone, for countless people have asked much the same across the centuries. Prayer, we are told, is the life-blood of the church, the most powerful resource we have at our disposal, a way of communicating directly with God Himself. Yet sadly prayer is not easy; indeed for some of us it is just about the hardest part of Christian discipleship. Why? Because we are faced with several dilemmas. What do we pray for and how should we pray? In what way does God answer prayer? How do we hear Him? We probably all feel we should pray, but few of us know how. All too easily prayer can become a burden rather than a pleasure.

Yet we should not give up. To do so would be to ignore not only the teaching of Scripture but everything prayer has meant to generations of believers over the years. It is no accident that in every major religion, prayer is given a central place. Though the form of prayer, and the God worshipped in it, may differ, the underlying conviction remains the same - here is a way of engaging with the divine, of putting our lives in touch with the eternal realities that underpin our universe.

So how do we pray? To that there is no single answer. For different people there will always be different ways into prayer. Some will respond most easily to the formality of an Anglican or Roman Catholic liturgy, others to the less structured approach generally followed in the Free Churches. Some will relish the spontaneity of a charismatic prayer meeting, others prefer the quiet reflectiveness that lies at the heart of Quaker worship. But if prayer is to be meaningful, I believe two things are essential.

First, we must recognise prayer is not simply about words, but actions. Unless we try to fulfil the words we use in prayer there is little point praying, for ultimately God depends on us to work with Him. There is little point praying for others if we are not prepared to try and meet their needs; or asking for forgiveness if we are not truly sorry and wanting to live better lives.

Second, we must recognise prayer is not simply about telling God what we want and expecting Him to deliver. It is rather about looking to tune into His wavelength, discover His will, draw closer to Him.

Prayer then is not only about words - it is about life. Of course words will always be needed, for there are times when we need to articulate our thoughts. But equally there are times when God speaks to us most powerfully through silence or a piece of music, through the sound of a bird singing or the sight of the sky at night. There are all kinds of ways we can approach God, just as there are innumerable ways He can speak to us.

In Toc H, reflections have always played an important role, as has the recognition that faith must express itself in action, and the realisation that God can be discovered by people across all boundaries, of all faiths and none. This I believe is a very special heritage. Make the most of it!

Revd Nick Fawcett
(Chaplain/Development Officer Division 2)

CONSIDERING THE TOC H PRAYER

When I first heard the Toc H prayer, I was really moved by the words. Three years later, I still have the same feeling but I have had reasons to question how much the words are converted into actions by those who repeat them.

I offer you a challenge when you say this prayer - please think of the significance of what you are saying. Ask God for help in reaching to understand all those lovely phrases. Ask yourselves: how do the words apply to me? How do they fit with my role in Toc H?

A few of my own thoughts...

* ***O God, who so wonderfully made Toc H and set us in it to see our duty as thy will;***

In our 82nd year, God protects our wonderful Toc H. He lets us be a part of it to enable us to do things that are pleasing in His sight.

* ***teach us to live together in love and joy and peace;***

What significance does that phrase have in your life? Jesus looks at us and loves us. He judges us by His love for us. He judges us too by our love for one another. In the silence of our own hearts, let us seek reconciliation with any with whom we are not at peace, and reflect on the word of Jesus: "If you are offering your gift at the altar and remember your brother/sister has anything against you - first be reconciled to them, then come and offer your gift. Do not judge and you will not be judged. Do not condemn and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give and it will be given to you."

In the silence of our own hearts, let us seek reconciliation with any with whom we are not at peace.

* ***to check all bitterness; to disown discouragement;***

Please spend some time asking yourself how you feel when you repeat these words. Are you happy to say these words? How do you feel when you examine yourself? Why not discuss these phrases and share your findings in open discussion with other Toc H members?

* ***to practise thanksgiving and to leap with joy to any task for others.***

A thank you to God for all our members, staff, and those who come into contact with our work. "Leaping" might not come quite so easily to some of us, but our enthusiasm for trying new ideas, whilst maintaining our ethos, is crucial to the survival of Toc H.

* ***strengthen the good thing thus begun,***

Amen to that.

* ***that with gallant and high-hearted happiness we may work for thy Kingdom in the wills of all;***

What a brilliant phrase "gallant and high-hearted happiness"! We pray that God's Kingdom and God's love will reach and touch everyone.

* ***through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Tom Elliott
(Chaplain/Development Officer Division 1)

STEVEN REDGRAVE LAUNCHES TOC H PHOENIX

Steven Redgrave OBE, four times Olympic Gold Medallist and Patron of the Toc H Atlantic Challenge, has now officially launched the boat which will transport Mark Stubbs and Steve Isaacs across the Atlantic later this year. The event, held at Christchurch Rowing Club, was attended by representatives from Toc H, Dorset Fire Services, and the local community. It attracted a large crowd who witnessed the blessing, naming and launching of the boat. Watching Steve climb into the boat for an honorary row up the river, many spectators were prompted to quote his now infamous statement at the 1996 Olympics:
"If anyone catches me in a rowing boat again, they have my permission to shoot me."

Left: Guests at the launch
Below: Three men in a boat, (left to right) Mark Stubbs, Steven Redgrave OBE, and Steve Isaacs.

BRANCH CELEBRATES 2,000TH MEETING

Lighting the Toc H lamp are (from left) Hubert Crowther, Harry Brier, Mike Lyddiard and Sydney Taylor. Photograph kindly supplied by Huddersfield Daily Examiner

A celebration lunch was held to mark the 2,000th meeting of Lindley Toc H Men's Branch. The group was formed in 1952 and three founder-members were at the celebration; Sydney Taylor, Arnold Whitely and Ron Bates. Guest speaker was Toc H Director, Mike Lyddiard. Over the years the group has been involved with Cheshire Homes at Edgerton and Sowerby Bridge, and for 23 years it ran coaches to the coast and countryside for pensioners. Today, members continue to be involved in the long running Christmas parcel service.

THANK YOU, SUZANNE!

The new Ripon and District Group would like to publicly thank Suzanne Dunwell for her generosity in making and giving us a special Christmas cake to raffle in support of our limited funds. In addition, Suzanne proceeded to sell most of the tickets at Central Council and we would in turn like to applaud the generosity of the members who supported our raffle. You can rest assured that we will do our best to make full use of this very useful boost to our funds.

QUIET DAY IN NORTHANTS

Members from Rushden and Higham Ferrers met together for the District's first Quiet Day. This was led by Division I Chaplain, Tom Elliott, and the Revd John Hucknall, Minister of Higham Ferrers Church, and took place at a member's home.

Greta Lynn, who attended, writes "we were gently guided to think on the subject of 'love' - God's love for us, our own self-love, and love for our neighbour. In a relaxed and happy atmosphere we began by singing a beautiful hymn. Then, in small groups, shared our thoughts about love. This was supplemented by inspirational talks by our leaders and relevant Bible readings.

If all this sounds rather heavy, it wasn't - even I could understand it! At the end of the afternoon one of our group remarked that we had experienced 'a small part of the peace of the Upper Room'. If each of us could share with others that love and that peace, and they in turn could 'pass it on', then Toc H would no longer be needed. In the words of Martin Luther King, 'I have a dream'."

STAFF DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE 1996 - THE END OF AN ERA

In December last year the last of Toc H's Development Conferences, as we know them, took place. Traditionally an occasion for selected Toc H staff and associates to gather and contemplate the future of Toc H, from 1997 the event will be replaced by two quite separate activities. Firstly a conference in the Summer for all staff, focusing on staff-related issues, followed by a much smaller forum, solely for development staff, later in the year.

Despite being the last, the conference was nonetheless a positive and productive one. The theme 'Partnerships And Working for the Future' was tackled with enthusiasm by four working groups representing Divisions 1,2,3, and Central Services. Over the four-day period the groups worked hard, exploring ideas, concepts and methods for building the

vital teamwork necessary to enable the new DDTs (Divisional Development Teams) to succeed in rebuilding and developing Toc H. With the emphasis on 'bonding', staff also attacked the spiritual and social side of the event with vigour using "Desert Island Discs", "Diversions", "Reflections", and the closing act of celebration to discover more about the personal side of their colleagues, which is sometimes obscured by the professional roles they assume for Toc H.

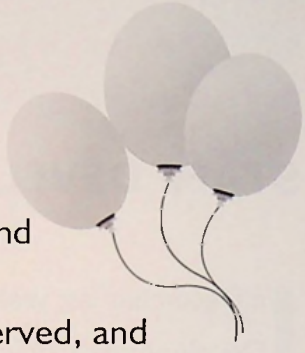
SALTBURN BRANCH DONATION

On behalf of Division 1's Development Team, John Dunwell (Development Officer, Division 1), recently accepted a generous donation of £500 from Saltburn Branch. The money, which is to go towards the Division's Development Fund, will be designated, at the Branch's request, specifically towards the development of Projects. For other branches looking for ways to offer support to the three DDTs now responsible for Toc H's development, this might be a model to copy.

SKELMORLIE & WEMYSS BAY BRANCH

Members and friends have been busy recently with two important annual features on the Branch's activities. One of these involved the production and sale of a local Toc H calendar containing a popular local view, and details of useful local information. Most of the calendars, of which 800 were printed, are sold by members from door to door, a somewhat daunting exercise in contemplation, but ultimately rewarding as most of the householders are happy and anxious to buy. Profits made on the sales and income from advertisements help to offset the cost of the Senior Citizens Party.

The annual party welcomes 150 or more senior citizens, together with local doctors and the local minister. Refreshments are served, and the afternoon is rounded off with a concert drawn from branch and local talent, to which the Cub Scouts make an excellent contribution.



Taken together these two enterprises have helped to build up the high regard that the Branch now holds in the district, and is reflected in the number of donations received, which help to keep our finances in order.

SOUTHPORT NEWS

Members of Southport Branch recently held a fundraising Coffee Evening inviting friends from the former Maghull Branch.

BLOOD DONOR CAMPAIGN

A Blood Donor Day, organised late last year by the Chippenham, Newbury & Swindon District Executive, resulted in 34 people signing up as donors, 14 of whom asked for further information on Toc H. In addition the Mayor of Swindon, Councillor Maureen Caton, gave us her support during the morning. Thanks go to all those who responded to our appeal, and those of our members who were able to help on the day.

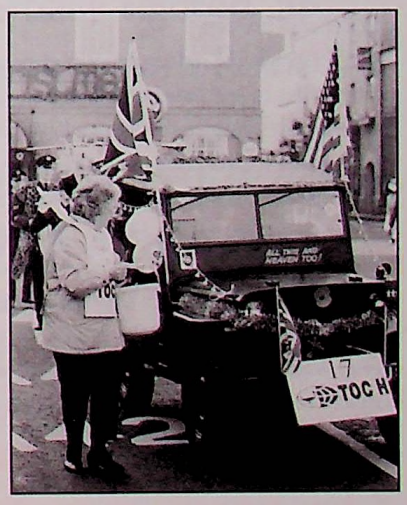
BRIXWORTH NEWS

BRIXWORTH
Countryside for All

- The Rushden & District Caledonian Society arranged a social evening "A Taste of Scotland" to raise money for Toc H Brixworth Project. Activities included demonstrations of cookery and dancing, with a dancing 'free for all' later in the evening. A grand total of £300 was raised.
- Toc H Brixworth Project has been awarded £200 from the Co-op Care Grant Scheme. A cheque and plaque were presented to Megan Graham at the Co-op Late Shop in the village of Irchester, Northants. The grant is designated towards the provision of a resting area, picnic benches and tables, all designed for wheelchair access.

BUCKINGHAM BRANCH FLOAT IN CHRISTMAS PARADE

The Buckingham Branch entered in the Buckingham town Christmas Carnival Parade which raised around £500 for local charities.



Photograph courtesy of: Buckingham & Winslow Advertiser

KATE ADIE SENDS HER APOLOGIES

As many Toc H members will know, the 1996 Toc H Annual Lecture on Reconciliation regrettably had to be cancelled at short notice in December, as Kate Adie, OBE, who was due to deliver the Lecture, was unable to attend due to work commitments in Belgrade. The following letter of apology was received by the Director, Mike Lyddiard, from Kate Adie:

FROM CHIEF NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Dear Mr Lyddiard,

I am so sorry not to have been able to return to London to deliver the Lecture, and I regret having disappointed so many people at such short notice. The nature of my work means a certain element of unpredictability, but it is truly unfortunate to be stuck in one European capital witnessing efforts to reconcile political differences, when I should have been in another capital city talking about Reconciliation.

Some assignments are quite difficult to judge - and the demonstrations in Belgrade could have had the potential for various scenarios: trying to assess the chances of one hundred thousand people in conflict with a dictatorial regime is tricky - and we found ourselves having to gauge the political temperature on a daily basis. It is doubly ironic that this was happening on the streets of Serbia, because quite a deal of what I was intending to use in the lecture came from experiences in the Balkans over the last five years. Not much in the way of conclusions as to the means of reconciliation, I might add, but many thoughts on the causes and effects of divisions in a nation.

Once again, I apologise for having let you down, and I can only hope that thoughts on reconciliation will take wing, even though I was unable to deliver the lecture.

With all good wishes towards the work of Toc H.

Yours sincerely

Kate Adie

By way of 'reconciling' our disappointment, Kate Adie has offered her services to Toc H, and Mike Lyddiard is currently discussing with her how this offer might be best enjoyed by Toc H.

In the November issue of Point 3, John Dunwell wrote a letter questioning what had happened to branch funds upon the closure of Garforth branch. The following excerpt, taken from a reply written by a former member of the branch, clarifies the situation.

"Although income had been going down over the past few years, we had nevertheless, in the last ten years, donated over three thousand pounds to Family Purse .... (and in addition financial) help was given to other branches, regional and national appeals.

In 1990 we had money donated to us and decided to add to it in order to purchase something substantial for the Martin House Hospice for Terminally Ill Children. We had always made it clear that the money from our sales was for the Hospice, and this encouraged people to support us when we were collecting for Toc H. The money for our Hospice project was put on loan to Toc H, and when the members wanted to close the branch they decided that, as we had made a donation to Family Purse in April, the bulk of our money would go to Martin House, and two other local hospices and our churches, who had often helped Toc H out by providing accommodation."

Peggy Crossland
LEEDS

A while ago I attended the Toc H District Annual Service of Rededication. The form of service was compiled by Toc H Central Services. This included a New Zealand version of the Lord's Prayer, which has the phrase, "Father and 'Mother' of us all". Some Christians would agree with me that to address God as 'Mother' is not in accordance with Scripture. We can do no other than follow the instruction which Jesus Himself gave us when he taught the traditional Lord's Prayer, Luke 11:2. I would be interested to hear if other members have experienced this problem.

Ray Goodway
SHIREHAMPTON

FANCY A DAY OF REFLECTION?

Nick Fawcett (Chaplain/Development Officer, Division 2) is considering running a series of Days of Reflection. The Days, which will consist of reflection and discussion, with the assistance of music, slides, readings and meditations, are on the following themes:

FAITH IN ACTION Anxious to put what you believe into practice? Maybe planning a new Toc H project? An opportunity to ask what faith has to say about life, and life has to say about faith.

SPEAKING TRUTH IN LOVE Concerned about conflict in our society? Wanting to bring people together in dialogue? Explore the need to confront our differences and work towards reconciliation.

EXPLORING THE FOURTH POINT Worried that the Fourth Point of the Toc H compass is sometimes underplayed? Or simply curious to find out what it's all about? Explore the spiritual basis of Toc H and your place within it.

WILL YOU BE MY FRIEND? Concerned about the lonely, the depressed, and those in need of friendship? Feeling isolated yourself? Part of a Friendship Circle or thinking about setting one up? Reflect on the unconditional friendship offered by Jesus throughout His ministry, and ask what this has to say to us today.

JOURNEYING WITH JESUS Wanting to know more about the Christian faith? Looking to continue further in your own journey of discovery? Reflect on the ministry of Jesus and ask what His life means to us in Toc H today.

YOU ARE THE BRANCHES Uncertain what the future holds for your branch? Looking for a new sense of purpose? In need of encouragement and inspiration to help you take up the challenge? Consider what Jesus's analogy of the Vine and the Branches has to say about branch life today.

If you are interested in any of the above and would like further details, please contact Nick Fawcett on 01823 663399.

"IN TOUCH"

HURRY! HURRY! HURRY!

There will be another issue of IN TOUCH, Regional magazine for W. Midlands and S. Wales, in March. If you have not already ordered a copy, please send £1.20 for the two issues in 1997, to be mailed to your home address. Bulk orders accepted.

Margaret Davies, Editor, IN TOUCH, 7 Grangewood Court, Woodshires Road, Solihull B92 7DN

PRAYER LINKS ON TAPE

Thanks to the thoughtfulness and generosity of Harry Bailey, it is now possible to have Prayer Links on tape for the blind or partially sighted, as already happens with Point 3.

If you would like further details of this service, please contact Harry direct at 27 Harrowden Road, Wellingborough, Northants NN8 3BG

CHANGES TO TOC H MEMBERSHIP

fresh faces and fond farewells

Every member makes an invaluable, individual contribution to Toc H. In a regular feature, Point 3 acknowledges both those who are new to membership and those who sadly have passed on. In welcoming new members we hope to give you a flavour of the person behind the name by listing the 'hidden talents' individuals have told us about on their application form. The Tributes and Farewells provide a limited opportunity to recognise the individual contributions made by those whose membership has sadly come to a close.

WELCOMES

- **John Bowhay**, member of Burraton Joint Branch.
- **Constance Merrill**, member of Kempston Branch.
- **Charles Curry**, member of Duns Branch, Borders.
- **Alan Turner**, member of Duns Branch, Borders.
- **Charlotte Clayson**, member of Melton Mowbray Afternoon Branch. Charlotte's talents include cooking.
- **Alison Eastwood**, member of the North East Region Projects group.
- **Carol Bewes**, member of the North East Region Projects group. Carol is an Occupational Therapist and a voluntary youth worker. She enjoys being outdoors, crafts, music, walking and cycling.
- **Andrea Fairhurst**, member of the South East Regional Projects Committee. Andrea is a High School teacher, and she has led many Toc H Playschemes. She really enjoys meeting new people and working (and playing!) with children.
- **Alexander Speed**, member of Stockport District.
- **Andrew Beresford**, member of Stockport District.
- **Margaret Roberts**, member of Stockport District.
- **Brian Withers**, member of New Tees Group. Brian enjoys photography and hiking.
- **William Casement**, member of New Tees Group.
- **Joan Pack**, member of Rushden Women's Oakley Branch.
- **Joan Tarry**, member of Rushden Women's Oakley Branch.
- **Carole Wroe**, member of Skipton and the Rest of the World Branch.
- **Phillipa Borchard**, member of Ripon & District Group. Phillipa is an Insurance Intermediary and Independent Financial Adviser (I.F.A.). She also enjoys fell walking, climbing and flower arranging.
- **Robert Lawrie**, member of Ripon & District Group.
- **Kathleen Lawrie**, member of Ripon & District Group.
- **Margaret Dunwell**, member of Ripon & District Group. Margaret's hobbies are mainly craft-orientated.
- **Marion Osman**, member of Newport Women's Branch.
- **Phyllis Stephens**, member of Newport Women's Branch.
- **Marguerite Hopkin**, member of Paris Branch.
- **Ida Phillips**, member of Llandrindod Wells Branch.
- **Hilda Zmudzki**, member of Llandrindod Wells Branch.
- **Klaus Kruger**, member of Paderborn Branch, Germany.
- **Julian West**, member of Avon District.
- **Sally Evans**, member of Cambridge Branch.
- **Aileen Footit**, member of Central Branch. Aileen's interests are nursing, oil painting, creative writing, and she is a dressmaking tutor.
- **Clive Wheat**, member of Central Branch.
- **Carole Booth**, member of South Devon District.
- **Enid Walton**, member of South Regional Project Branch.
- **Gregory White**, member of Tubby's Poperinge Group. Gregory is training as a Camp monitor.

TRIBUTES

- **Julius Newman**, Job Master and valued member of Brandon Branch for many years. **DW**
- **George Gibson**, member of Graeme Branch, Derby. Involved for many years with the Derby Toc H Children's Camp, Derby District, and the old Central Branch. **GM**
- **Fred Hoult**, member of Graeme Branch and former Chairman of Derby District Branch. He epitomised the spirit of Toc H - 'gallant and high-hearted happiness' were not just words to Fred, they were his way of life. **GM**
- **Mary Wakefield**, a member since 1930 and founder member of Hillsborough Branch. **DW**
- **Charley Turner**, former member of Chard Branch. A man of few words but ever present when there was work to be done. **DT**
- **Ena Ellis**, member of Southport Branch . She will be remembered for her laughter, her friendship, her willingness to help and care for others, and her generous nature. **EP**
- **Sandy Kellie**, a dedicated member of Duns Branch for over 40 years. He will be remembered as a quiet gentleman with a pawky sense of humour and great faith. **JM**
- **Noel Wolstenholme**, a member for over thirty years of Morecambe Branch, he was also our Branch Treasurer for over ten years, and a Central Councillor. **BC**
- **Frances Gutteridge** (Frankie to all who knew her), founder member of Wallasey Branch and former officer of the North-West Area Council of the Women's Association. **ET**
- **Anne (Winifred) Petch**, long time member of Toc H, at various branches including Harrogate, Mill Hill and latterly Hitchin, of which she was a founder-member. **JP**
- **Revd Edwin Howard Newton**, member and Branch Padre for Solihull Branch for almost 30 years. He will be remembered for his quiet sense of humour, his contributions to discussions on widely varying subjects, his extraordinary memory of dates and events, and his valuable guidance on matters spiritual.
- **Dorothy Anker**, member and pilot of both the Northants District and Rushden Pytchley Branch who worked very hard for Toc H. **VD**
- **Adam Richardson**, longest serving member of Jedburgh Branch. A kindly man with a cheerful disposition. **ES**
- **Henry George Lockwood**, former member and Chairman of Lee Branch in South-East London, Tonbridge Branch and Carlisle Branch, as well as Chairman of the North Western Area, and recently a valued member of the Ipswich Men's Branch for twenty years. He was a true gentleman and friend. **ERT**
- **William Looker**, Branch Secretary for 38 years and the oldest member of the Broughton Astley (Men's) Branch, Leicester. His kindness to others, his wry sense of humour and his pleasant personality endeared him to all. **NH**
- **Ivy May**, member of the ex Oldham Women's Toc H Branch for the past thirty years, serving as Jobbie, Chair and Pilot during those years. She was well known as a lively and forward looking member of both branch and district. **MC**

FAREWELLS

- **Eileen Edwards**, member of South East Regional Branch.
- **John Siggins**, member of Chippenham Branch.
- **Walter Torbell**, member of Northants District.
- **Stephen Bourne**, member of the late Edenbridge Branch.
- **John Burdis**, member of South East Hampshire District.
- **Charles Clark**, member of Peterborough and Stamford Branches.
- **Olive Cowling**, member of Honiton Branch.
- **Doris Flood**, member of Parkhurst Branch.
- **Jessie Green**, member of Thanet District.
- **Phyllis Hartley**, member of Loughborough Branch.
- **Margaret Jones**, member of Treforest Branch.
- **Andrew Agnew**, member of South East Regional Branch.
- **Leslie Harris**, member of Swindon District.
- **Ifor 'Wyn' Roberts**, member of Wrexham Branch.
- **John Thrift**, member of Wellingborough Branch.
- **Maud Walter**, member of Brighton Branch.
- **Edna Dixon**, member of Greenbank Branch.
- **Thomas Easton**, member of Selkirk Branch.
- **Doris Greenslade**, member of Honiton Branch.
- **Gertrude Hart**, member of Elmstead Branch.
- **Olive Mather**, member of Thanet District.
- **Arthur Sandy**, member of the late Ilminster Branch.
- **Ivy Taylor**, member of Parkhurst Branch.
- **Edith Walmsley**, member of Cheadle Hulme Branch.

• FIRST MEETING OF HULL AND EAST YORKSHIRE LOCAL FUNDRAISING GROUP - (HANDEY LFG)

Beverley, East Yorkshire
10 February 1997

A new Toc H group for Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire which promises fun - community involvement; fun - social activity; fun - personal development; AND fun-draising. Join us - you'll never regret it. Details from Alison and Richard Newby on 01482-863926, or Stuart Wroe on 01756-795086.

• ACTION 4 TOC H

Colsterdale, N. Yorkshire.
14-16 February 1997

Toc H needs more people. Lots more people. Will you be a Toc H activist? We need individuals who will commit themselves to promoting Toc H. During this event, we will plan our campaign and prepare ourselves for this challenge. Cost £5.00
For more details, please contact Suzanne Dunwell, 31 Otterbeck Way, Aiskew, Bedale, North Yorks. DL8 1XL Tel: 01677 425152

• CONCERT

Rushden,
1 March 1997

In the presence of the Lord Lieutenant John Lowther Esq. and his wife, a concert is being given by The Northampton Light Orchestra, and Soloist Rachel Butler. This is being held at the Rushden Salvation Army Citadel at 7.30pm. Tickets are £4, available from Megan Graham, 7 Upper Park Avenue, Rushden, Northants NN10 9NY.
All proceeds towards the Toc H Brixworth Project.

• FIRST ANNUAL DIVISION ONE CRAFT FAIR

Skipton Town Hall, North Yorkshire
7 March 1997

Get your knitting needles out, turn that pot, make that jam. After a winter of Toc H members throughout the Division making items for sale, join us in selling the products of our wonderfully talented membership to the money-crazed tourists visiting Skipton - 'The Gateway to the Dales'. Details from Stuart Wroe, Tel. 01756-795086.

• MAYTIME MELODIES - TOC H CHARITY CONCERT

Central United Reformed Church, Sheffield
17 May 1997 - 2.30pm

Join us for an afternoon of popular music, from Opera to songs from the Shows, in Sheffield City Centre at the Central United Reformed Church, featuring professional South Yorkshire musicians in lively performances. Volunteer stewards and caterers required. Tickets/details from 0114-2467143 or 01756-705086

• TOC H ~~BEAUJOLAIS~~ RUN '97

Masham to Paris
20 November 1997
sponsored by THEAKSTONS

From midnight 20 November 1997 you and your team have to transport a sample of Yorkshire's finest ale from Masham to Paris whilst fundraising and collecting sponsorship for TOC H. Prizes for most successful fundraisers/most original form of transport/etc.

Register your group's interest now! For more details contact Stuart Wroe. Tel. 01756 795086

• TOC H BRIXWORTH PROJECT NEEDS 40,000 TREES

Buy a tree and have your name recorded in a Millennium Project Directory.
Each tree costs £1.

For details contact: Megan Graham, 7 Upper Park Avenue, Rushden, Northants. NN10 9NY
Cheques payable to TOC H BRIXWORTH PROJECT